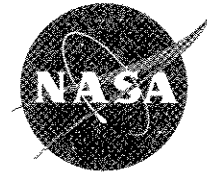


National Aeronautics and Space Administration

George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



September 9, 2010

Reply to Attn of: **LS01 (AMM)**

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Approval for MSFC Employees with Senior Institutional and Senior Administrative Responsibilities to attend the 2010 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

Certain MSFC employees with senior institutional or project responsibilities have been invited to attend the 2010 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce (Chamber of Commerce) at Ditto Landing on September 21, 2010. The purpose of the event is to honor NASA and the Military.

The Chamber of Commerce is the lead economic development organization for Huntsville/Madison County, providing assistance for business expansion and recruitment, and delivering information regarding available sites, labor force, workforce development, taxation, finance programs and incentives. Members of the Chamber of Commerce include many NASA contractors and suppliers.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of representatives of government, aerospace industry, small businesses, and community leaders. A reception with cocktails and a fresh seafood dinner is valued at \$25 per person and approximately 300 individuals have been invited to attend. The reception is fully funded by the Chamber of Commerce. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR §2635.204(g)(2).

Attendance of MSFC employees with senior institutional or project management responsibilities at this event would be in the best interest of NASA, since it will further NASA programs and operations. MSFC personnel invited to attend this event have, or may soon have, duties that involve frequent interaction with Chamber of Commerce and may substantially affect the Chamber's interests or the interest of a majority of the Chamber's members.¹

¹ Based on the invitation list provided, those personnel, identified by position, are: MSFC Center Director; Deputy Director, Associate Directors; Director and Department Heads for the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications as listed herein: Supervisor, Business Planning and Integration Office; Supervisor, Public & Employee Communications Office; Supervisor, External Relations Office; Supervisor, Performance and Capabilities Management Office; Supervisor, Engineering Cost Office; and Legislative Affairs Specialist; Director and Deputy Director of Procurement; Ares Projects Office Manager; Shuttle Propulsion Office Transition Manager, Manager,

These personnel are similarly situated in that they each have institutional responsibilities for MSFC that involve significant community relations responsibilities that could significantly influence Chamber programs and activities.

I have determined that attendance of these senior institutional and project leaders at the 2010 Annual Outing is in the interest of NASA because it will further agency programs and operations, help to raise NASA's profile with state and local business and governmental leaders, enhance to community relations, and support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its programs.

Given the purpose of the event, NASA's interest in it, the broad attendance anticipated, and the reasonable market value of the event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having these senior institutional and project leaders attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, NASA employees in the positions identified above may accept free attendance at the event. Free attendance by employees whose duties do not affect the Chamber's members is addressed in a separate determination.

The Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce is not a lobbying organization and is not registered as such under the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

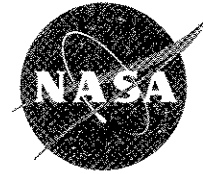
Questions about this determination may be addressed to Annette Metcalf Coffel at 256-544-0025.



William J. Bierbower
Chief Counsel

and Deputy; Science and Mission Systems Office Executive Manager and Associate Manager; and Director and Associate Directors of the Engineering Directorate.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



September 9, 2010

Reply to Attn of:

LS01 (AMM)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Blanket approval to attend the 2010 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

NASA invitees, accompanied by their spouse or a guest, may attend the 2010 Annual Outing sponsored by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce at Ditto Landing Pavilion on September 21, 2010. The purpose of the event is to honor NASA and the Military.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of approximately 300 representatives of government, the aerospace industry, small businesses, and the community. A reception with cocktails and a fresh seafood dinner will be served at a cost of approximately \$25 per person. The event is fully funded by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR §2635.204(g)(2).

I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned event is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of NASA employees at the event will help to raise NASA's profile with state and local business and governmental leaders, will contribute to community relations, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its activities. Given the purpose of the event, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of this social event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having employees attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, NASA employees that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, or a majority of its members, are not covered in this determination and should seek a specific determination from this office pursuant to 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding their participation in this event.

The Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce is not a lobbying organization and is not registered as such under the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Annette Metcalf Coffel at 256-544-0025.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William J. Bierbower', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William J. Bierbower
Chief Counsel